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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Last week the courts ruled that work on Kawaida Towers could go on. In 2 separate rulings, Judge Kimmelman first lifted a temporary injunction, which cited the possibility of violence, and then he struck down another attempt to legally halt work on the 16 story, 210 apartment building. Both these defeated suits were brought by the very forces now agitating any disorder.

But in the last few days any talk of legal constraint, or in fact the rule of law has become meaningless and academic. A white mob led by every opportunistic bigot in the North Ward has ranged uncontrolled in front of the site at Lincoln Avenue and made normal entrance and access to the site impossible. Even though the essential work, the pumping of water off the site, was done the first few days after the court ruling, today all pretense of law enforcement broke down and the mob, either through police unwillingness to control them, or a gross inefficiency that must border on actual criminality, took control.

The reason we question the meaning of mob rule at Kawaida Towers site, is that it is obvious that the police department is not functioning at any level that is acceptable to responsible elements in the community. The exploitation of this situation by the Imperiales, Adubatos, Megaros, each feverishly trying to out bigot the others would be laughable if it were not so serious in its implications. We recognize the high percent of ethnic whites on the police department who identify with the white North Ward community, even though many of them do not live in NewArk. We have photographs of the many white policemen who have actually been a part of the mob, illegally obstructing workers from entering the site. We would imagine these policemen are off duty, or that picketing is their duty. We have photographs of white policemen acting as Anthony Imperiale's bodyguards, at the site, and at the NewArk City Council. It is well known the involvement of Dominick Spina, the discredited ex-police director and Ron Gaspersnetti the

emotionally disturbed President of the P.B.A., with Imperiale and anti-Black and anti-Puerto Rican forces in the North Ward and throughout the state. These klan like forces have always been massed against Black rights and development, but at no time since the ousting of Hugh Addonizio has the collusion between irresponsible, in fact, pathological racists in the white community and the police department been so blatant and defiant.

John Redden has taken an oath to enforce the laws of this municipality, he should uphold that oath, or resign. The oath is not meant to be enforced against Black people and Puerto Ricans only. But apparently Redden's racist policemen believe it is. The lack of police law enforcement at the site of Kawaida Towers is a clear violation of the civil rights of Kawaida Towers, Inc., the members of the Temple of Kawaida, as well as the other citizens of Newark who want to see Kawaida Towers built.

Repeated calls, and telegrams have been directed at investigative and law enforcement agencies in Newark and throughout the state, asking the law be enforced at the site of Kawaida Towers, and that workers not be interfered with. And while mob interference with workers has existed since the work started up again after the courts decision, today's display of criminal anarchy, aided and abetted by Newark policemen, is open defiance of the courts and the Mayor of the City of Newark, and the progressive citizens of this city.

We have been informed that injunctions will be sought by the contractor, and the city of Newark against the mob, to see that any demonstrations are contained by the language of the injunction, but we must insist that any injunction ought also to take into consideration the realistic consideration that no injunction is worth two cents if the police department won't enforce it. And at this point the Black community is asking who is going to police the police??

Imamu Amiri Baraka

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